



DM Thomas Foundation for Young People
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PRESS RELEASE:

DM Thomas Foundation for Young People partners with YMCA to support into-employment programme for homeless young people in the North East

Funding of £17,650 has been awarded by DM Thomas Foundation for Young People to YMCA North Tyneside, a Newcastle charity devoted to making the local community healthier, happier and better connected.

The grant will be used to create a fully fitted community café and kitchen within the YMCA building. The café will allow young people who are currently on supported accommodation with YMCA to receive training and a work placement before transitioning into part or full time employment in the hospitality industry. The café will also have a positive impact for the wider community and will provide a new source of income for YMCA while contributing to the fight against homelessness.

Thanks to the funding 30 formerly homeless young people will be able to benefit every year from the programme, using the café to gain the skills, qualifications and experience that they need to make a change for themselves.

Dean Titterton, CEO of the charity, said: "Providing somewhere safe for homeless young people to live is just the basics. YMCA strives to impact on young people's lives to a much greater degree. The ability to offer support, advice, qualifications and on-the-job training is part of our vision to provide a 'life-package' for disaffected young people, giving them the skills to live a fulfilling life. The training kitchen and café project promises to be an incredible example of joined-up-thinking and has the potential to deliver some amazing outcomes for our young people and our community."

Simon Sheehan, Director of DM Thomas Foundation for Young People, said: “We believe that every young person should be able to fulfil their potential by having access to the best possible education and training opportunities. We are extremely proud to partner with YMCA North Tyneside to deliver a programme that will provide very disadvantaged young people with invaluable into-employment support.”

ENDS

Notes to editor

For press enquiries contact Irene Cantizano, DM Thomas Foundation for Young People, 02076057629.

About the DM Thomas Foundation for Young People

The DM Thomas Foundation is dedicated to transforming the lives of young people. We believe that with the right support, all young people can fulfil their potential. Through our ABLE giving framework, we help young people in the UK and Europe to Achieve their goals, Beat or ameliorate health conditions, Live independent and fulfilled lives and Experience the best that life can offer. Donations are funded almost entirely through the generous efforts and contributions of our corporate partners and the wider community. Since our establishment in November 2000 (as Hilton in the Community Foundation), we have awarded £16 million to a wide range of fantastic projects that support young people.

<https://dmthomasfoundation.org>